

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 15:11:21

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Zoom

- **Present:** Michael Hunter, Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, Robert MacKinnon, D J Morrison, Paul Russ, Diana MacLennan, Kirsty MacKay, Finlay MacLeod, Donald MacLeod, Tim Langley

Calum opened the meeting by extending condolences to D J Morrison and his family on the passing of their mother. Calum also expressed his best wishes and a speedy recovery to Kate Lewis after her recent health scare.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kate Lewis, Donnie MacLeod, David Wake		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes were approved by Calum MacKay and seconded by Barbara MacKay• SCA are disappointed with the decision regarding the playpark. A meeting will be held with SCA to determine the best way to proceed.• The meeting with Hushinish crofters has been rescheduled for this month.		
3.	Staff Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial papers were circulated.• It was agreed to hold the Focus Day on Saturday 27th November from 1pm to 5pm which will be facilitated by David Gass, Rural Matters Ltd. Trading Company directors will also be invited to attend. Staff will meet with David Gass on Thursday via Zoom and Calum will have a telephone conversation with him at the beginning of next week. The format of the day was discussed and Michael will inform David Gass of directors recommendations. Focus Day strategy suggestions will be circulated prior to the day to ensure directors are happy with the process. A Board Workshop report and agreed forward strategy priorities and actions from the day will be produced and circulated the following week. A final session with Board to agree the report and recommendations will be held at the next Board meeting.• All seasonal staff posts have now come to the end of their contract. George Owens has accepted an extension to his contract after an extension to his funding became available. Kate MacLeod has signed a 12 month contract as Huisinis Gateway Warden. David has returned to 0.8 FTE at the beginning of November. There has been no update on the CLS Gaelic Ranger funding. NatScot have offered funding for 2 years and Calum suggested seeking further Gaelic funding to incorporate a Gaelic element into the service.• There has been no progress on the Meavaig housing project. It was proposed to speak to Alasdair MacLeod to seek clarification over what stage the project is at. Directors expressed frustration at the project not progressing and would like a progress report in order to proceed.		

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Harris Forum AGM will be held on 6th December and directors were invited to attend if they are interested in becoming involved. • After a meeting with CnES it was discovered that the Hushinish Jetty is owned by NHT. NFU have been contacted to extend our public liability insurance to cover the site. CnES will remove their signage and NHT signage should be erected. An agreement with jetty users should be considered. • All Kyles and Scalpay piers & slipways were under lease from the Crown Estate therefore it is unlikely to be NHT that owns these areas. CnES will consider their position with respect to the Crown Estate. Directors were asked whether they would like to pursue ownership for these areas, and it was decided to keep things as they were. If NHT were to contest ownership it would involve the Land Court. Ownership of the Tarbert West Loch pier has yet to be established. Finlay is happy to attend any further meetings. • A meeting was held with Scalpay Shareholders on 26th October with a Plan B proposed for the Common Grazings which still provides substantially the same delivery from a NatureScot perspective. Scalpay shareholders plan to meet to vote on both proposals this week. Progress has been made on tree supply and Michael hopes to place tree orders in time to claim before the 6th December. Fencing for the project will be undertaken with a mix of two separate contractors and NHT staff. This will be confirmed once the various townships have committed to the extent of their involvement in the project. Further discussions will be held with Kyles Scalpay Common Grazings committee. Urgha CG shareholders have returned a unanimous decision in supporting the project. The fencing contractor is due to start in the Meavaig area imminently. Michael hopes to advertise for staff for the project soon. • A proposal has been received from Brenda Ford Sager for Eilean Glas Trust to contribute £1000 to NHT annually, towards the upkeep of infrastructure associated with permitting public access to the lighthouse. This payment is associated with NHT granting some limited, seasonal vehicular access to EGT along the aggregate pedestrian track from the end of the peat road to the lighthouse. The proposal was discussed and a number of concerns were raised regarding the track infrastructure being able to cope with vehicle traffic and the monetary donation suggested not being sufficient to cover costs The board refused the proposal on these concerns. Michael will inform EGT. • The Trust and Trading Company AGMs will be held on Tuesday 8th March 2022. 			
4.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No matters to be discussed. 		
5.	DONM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th December 2021 		